

Supplemental Environmental Projects

Thursday, November 15, 2012 | 6:00 p.m.

Montana Audubon Conservation Education Center



Sub-Area Contingency Plan

Spill Response Equipment Staging

Leak Detection Infrared Camera

Fish Passage at Huntley Dam

Channel Migration Easements

Clean Diesel Bus Program

Sub-Area Contingency Plan

Enhance the government's Area Response Plan and capabilities of local responders



Highlights

- Includes 10 Montana counties
- Features training and field exercises
- Goal is to assess and enhance area emergency preparedness/response capabilities
- Includes coordination with USEPA and MDEQ for participation by industrial and commercial entities along Yellowstone River

Key Benefits

Area-specific response plan to protect Yellowstone River watershed
Provides pre-planned strategic and tactical procedures and data
Expanded training of Montana first responders
Participation by key stakeholders
Joint drills with industry and first responders

Project Cost

- Preliminary estimated cost is \$483,000
- Companion project to staging of additional spill response equipment



Spill Response Equipment Staging

Store emergency response equipment at locations along the Yellowstone River for rapid response



Highlights

Based on needs assessment, equipment will include:

- Initial response equipment (river boom, sorbent pads, skimmers)
- Personal protective equipment (life jackets, safety glasses)
- Gas detection multi-meters
- Decontamination equipment (wash tubs, brushes, drums)

Equipment stored in portable containers, potentially in:

- Yellowstone County
- Rosebud County
- Custer County

Key Benefits

Enhance existing inventory

Storage containers are portable

Quickly available for response along the river and for use across Montana

Equipment donated to local agencies for future use

Project Cost

- Preliminary estimated cost is \$300,000
- Companion project to development of the Sub-Area Contingency Plan, local Tactical Response Plans, and field training

Leak Detection Infrared Camera

Purchase infrared camera and training for MDEQ staff to enhance fugitive emissions detection and improve air quality



Highlights

- Latest inspection technology
- Camera designed to spot minor vapor leaks in piping and process equipment that are difficult to monitor with other measurement tools
- Training by manufacturer for 12 MDEQ operators
- MDEQ to use as an audit, inspection, and compliance tool

Key Benefits

Inspection from safe distance
Reduces labor and process downtime
Proven technology in leak detection and pollution prevention
Available for use across Montana
Includes camera maintenance
Includes hands-on training

Project Cost

- Preliminary estimated cost is \$129,000

Fish Passage at Huntley Dam

Rehabilitate existing fish passage around Huntley Dam to improve fish migration



Highlights

- Huntley Dam built in 1905
- Fish passage built in 1999
- U.S. Bureau of Reclamation redesigned the passage to lengthen existing curve and create a gentler slope so fish are better able to migrate upstream
- Project support from U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks
- Yellowstone Conservation District is project sponsor

Key Benefits

Connects aquatic habitats
Likely to enhance key fish species
Use of Montana-based contractors
Funding fills a long-standing need
Design is shovel ready

Project Cost

- Preliminary estimated cost to be determined
- Approximately \$348,000 total budget to be allocated between this and the Channel Migration Easements project



Channel Migration Easements

Grant funding for easements that allow natural channel migration to create and enhance habitat



Highlights

- Alternative to bank stabilization
- Easements are voluntary but binding
- Natural migration of the river channel creates riparian and aquatic habitats of critical value to native and endangered fish
- Montana Aquatic Resources Service (MARS) is project sponsor
- Concept supported by Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks
- Program must be fully functioning with record of success

Key Benefits

Creates riparian habitat
Enhances existing aquatic habitat
Lets Mother Nature take its course
Viable option for land owners
Montana-based non-profit sponsor
Potential locations along middle and lower river already assessed



Project Cost

- Preliminary estimated cost to be determined
- Approximately \$348,000 total budget to be allocated between this and the Huntley Dam Fish Passage project

Clean Diesel Bus Program

Grant funding for purchase of clean diesel school buses to improve air quality



Highlights

- Targets areas for improved air quality
- Matching funds to local school districts
- Funds Montana Clean Diesel School Bus Program
- MDEQ program modeled on USEPA national program
- Engines and emissions control systems must meet emission standards, and on-board heaters required to avoid unnecessary idling

Key Benefits

Reduce exhaust emissions
Increase fuel efficiency; reduce fuel cost
Upgrades school bus fleet
Old buses are recycled

Project Cost

- Preliminary estimated cost is \$40,000
- Funding level may increase if funds remain from other SEPs